

### REMARKS

Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-3, 7-9, 11-13, 15, and 17 will be pending in the application. The Examiner has indicated that these claims are allowable.

Applicants provide the following comments.

#### *Claim Objections*

Applicants request that the objections of claims 16 and 19 be withdrawn because these claims have been canceled.

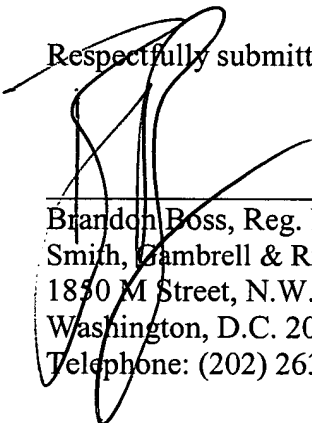
### CONCLUSION

Applicants await allowance of the application. If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this response, such as fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4300. Any overpayment can be credited to Deposit Account No. 02-4300.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 11, 2004

Signature:



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\* Practice is limited to matters and proceeding before federal courts and agencies.